

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:	) Group Art Unit: 2871	
Toshimitsu KONUMA et al.	) Examiner: D. Nguyen	
Serial No. 09/059,562	) <u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u> I hereby certify that this correspondence	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class
Filed: April 14, 1998	) being deposited with the United States Po	
For: LIQUID-CRYSTAL ELECTRO-	) Mail in an envelope addressed Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 14	to:
OPTICAL APPARATUS AND	) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 2005.	
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING	? Adum Stamper	
THE SAME	)	

## PRELIMINARY RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action mailed December 22, 2003, and the Advisory Action mailed May 18, 2004, have been received and their contents carefully noted. An Amendment was filed April 22, 2004, along with a Request for One Month Extension of Time. A Notice of Appeal was filed June 22, 2004, along with a Request for Three Month Extension of Time. Filed concurrently herewith is a Request for Five Month Extension of Time, which extends the shortened statutory period for response to January 22, 2005. Also, filed concurrently herewith is a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 7, 2000, and corrected on August 11, 2000, and October 4, 2000.

The Applicants note the Examiner's statement with respect to the *partial* consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on April 14, 1998, and January 25, 2002.